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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 02034 101807Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------110148Z 127681 /64
R 101238Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1160
INFO AMCONGEN BOMBAY
AMCONGEN CALCUTTA
AMCONGEN MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 2034

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDSQD
TAGS: PINT, IN, US
SUBJECT: APPROACH TO EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN INDIAN ELECTIONS FROM BOTH SIDES

1. IN LAST FEW DAYS, EMBOFFS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY BOTH CONGRESSMEN AND INDIVIDUALS PURPORTING TO REPRESENT THE OPPOSITION WITH REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN WINNING THE INDIAN ELECTIONS. WE HAVE RESPONDED WITH UNEQUIVOCAL REJECTIONS AND COMMENT THAT USG HAS ABSOLUTLEY NO INTENTION, INTEREST, OR REASON TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN ANY WAY IN INDIAN ELECTION.

2. CONGRESS APPROACH CAME FROM ANTI-COMMUNIST CONGRESS POLITICIANS (DIRECTLY FROM ASPIRANT FOR CONGRESS SEAT AND LONG-TIME FRIEND OF POLCOUNSELOR, KULDIP NARANG, AND INDIRECTLY THROUGH NARANG FROM FORMER FONMIN DINESH SINGH AND GOI MINSTATE FOR INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES, A.P. SHARMA). APPROACH EMPHASIZED MOUNTING INFLUENCE OF CPI AND CONGRESS-LEFT WITHIN CONGRESS IN LAST FEW DAYS SINCE JAGJIVAN RAM'S DEFECTION, AND ARGUED THAT USG MAY CONFRONT GOI WHICH MUCH MORE DEPENDENT ON "LEFT", AND CONCEIVABLY EVEN LED BY PRO-
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CPI CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY LEADER (AND FORMER UP CHIEFMIN) BAHUGUNA AFTER ELECTIONS. (DEVELOPMENT OF INFLUENCE OF "LEFT" IN LAST WEEK, WHICH APPEARS GENUINE, REPORTED SEPTEL.)

3. OPPOSITION APPROACH WAS FROM SELF-STYLED REPRESENTATIVE FROM SENIOR JANATA PARTY LEADERSHIP WHO GAVE HIS NAME AS R. C. AZAD (WE HAVE NO BIO RECORD OF HIM) WHO WAS TURNED

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AWAY AT ENTRANCE AS SOON AS HE STATED HIS BUSINESS.

4. SPECIFIC TYPE OF INVOLVEMENT OR AID BEING REQUESTED
WAS NOT STATED BY EITHER SIDE. EMBASSY MADE NO EFFORT TO
PURSUE SUBJECT OTHER THAN TO TURN IT OFF FLATLY. SINCE
BOTH APPROACHES WERE MADE AT EMBASSY, IT IS LIKELY THAT GOI
WILL HAVE RECORD OF VISITS BY BOTH PARTIES. WE EXPECT THESE
WILL NOT BE LAST APPROACHES WE RECEIVE, AND NOTE POSSIBILITY
THAT ALLEGATIONS OF US INVOLVEMENT IN ELECTIONS MAY YET

SURFACE AS THE NEXT FIVE WEEKS OF CAMPAIGNING GO ON. CONGENS
ARE ALL AWARE OF UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING AND
REJECTING SUCH INQUIRIES AND WILL REPORT ANY APPROACHES THEY
RECEIVE TO EMBASSY.
SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE02034
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770048-1016
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770254/aaaabvwj.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4d5174c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3354668
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPROACH TO EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN INDIAN ELECTIONS FROM BOTH SIDES
TAGS: PINT, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4d5174c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009